

Week of April 8-12, 2024

**Monday,
April 8, 2024 (A1)**

Spring Sports
Baseball & Softball Practice
2:50 PM - 4:30 PM

**Tuesday,
April 9, 2024 (B1)**

School Governance Council Meeting
6:00-7:30 PM

**Wednesday,
April 10, 2024**

Thursday,
April 11, 2024 (A2)

Softball Game AWAY vs. North Haven
3:45 PM

**Friday,
April 12, 2024 (B2)**

Dragon PRIDE Lunch Bunch Field Trip to
Eli's Brick Oven Pizza
11:00 AM - 12:45 PM

Spring Sports
Baseball & Softball Practice
2:50 PM - 4:30 PM

SPRING BREAK!

**HPS SPRING RECESS
APRIL 15-19, 2024**

Enjoy the vacation! Rest up and get ready for the final marking period of the school year. The next school newsletter will drop on Sunday, April 14th.

HMS CALENDAR

Parents and students can access calendar information on the HMS School Website.



Watch this video: Grit 'N Wit is coming to Hamden Middle School on April 24th & 25th!

Our teachers heard about the Grit 'N Wit program from teachers across Connecticut. It is a company that creates custom events like camp

team building activities to challenge people physically and mentally. Grit 'N Wit events foster teamwork, a growth mindset, and perseverance, so students are better prepared to take the world head-on. We contracted with Grit 'N Wit to visit HMS. Our intent is to help students mentally prepare for SBAC 2024 where they will persevere to demonstrate all they learned on the state assessments.

Here is what parents need to know about Grit N' Wit:

*All HMS students will have an opportunity to go outdoors and participate in the physical challenges and mental puzzles.

Time	Block	Period	Wednesday, April 24 (A4)	Thursday, April 25 (B4)
8:00-8:45	1	4	Ugolik	Coggins
8:48-9:33	2	5	Ugolik	Coggins
9:36-10:21	3	6	Holt	Stanton
10:24-11:40	4	7	Holt/Morello*	Stanton/DeLucia*
11:43-12:58	5	1	Morello	DeLucia
1:01-1:46	6	2	Rocco	Domurad
1:49-2:34	7	3	Rocco	Domurad

*On Wednesday, April 24th, Teams Ugolik, Holt, Morello, and Rocco will join the Grit 'N Wit team on the back fields. **Waiver Link: April 24th**

*On Thursday, April 25th, Teams Coggins, Stanton, DeLucia, and Domurad will go outside to compete in the challenges. **Waiver Link: April 25th**

*Students need to dress for success with sneakers and comfortable clothes. We always encourage layers to accommodate the weather.

***In order to participate, every student must have a waiver signed by a parent or guardian.**

1. Click on the links above to sign the waiver for your child.

General Admission

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1

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Free ⓘ

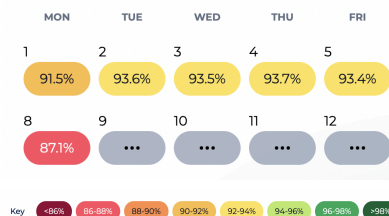
Reserve a spot

2. Click on General Admission
3. Enter the parent's first name, last name, and email address.
4. Enter your HMS Dragon's first name and last name.
5. Click your HMS Dragon's Team Name.
6. Read waiver and click I agree to the above additional terms.
7. Click register.

We are very excited to bring this special opportunity to our HMS community, and we want all of our students to have the opportunity to participate. It is essential that every student have a signed waiver to be eligible. If parents have any questions, please contact Michelle Coogan at mcoogan@hamden.org.



ATTENDANCE COUNTS



The image above highlights April 2024 Attendance Data. The percentage highlights the attendance rate for each day of school.

We want students to be present for learning every school day. We

regularly review attendance data, and we learned that yesterday, Monday, April 8, was a challenging day with a higher number of absences. We strive for "green" days... meaning 94% or more of our students are present at school. Please help your HMS Dragons get to school each day. Doors open at 7:45 AM, and the first class of the day promptly begins at 8:00 AM. School is better with YOU!



WORLD LANGUAGE NEWS

Our World Language teachers are incredibly proud of their students who recently participated in the Connecticut Council of Language Teachers (COLT) Poetry Contest. It is an annual contest in which students across the state recite poems in multiple languages, including the languages taught at HMS, Chinese, Italian, and Spanish.

On March 27th, several HMS students participated in the virtual contest. We are shining the spotlight on the following students who recently learned they placed in the Colt Poetry Contest:

- *Chloe B.: 1st Place in Italian MS2
 - *Ken C.: 2nd Place in MS Heritage Chinese
 - *Camille D.: 3rd Place in Spanish MS2
 - *Lauren F.: 1st Place in Italian MS1
 - *Isabella N.: 1st Place in MS Heritage Portuguese
 - *Lily S.: 3rd Place in Chinese MS1
 - *Jhenicer S. R.: 1st Place Spanish Heritage
- (Listed in alphabetical order by last name)

IMPORTANT DATES FOR EIGHTH GRADE STUDENTS

May 23: Grade 8 Dance
May 24: Grade 8 Field Day
May 30: Spring Concert Featuring the HMS Gr. 8 Band, Orchestra, Chorus, and Jazz Band
June 5: Grade 8 Field Trip to Holiday Hill (Teams Domurad & Rocco)
June 6: Grade 8 Field Trip to Holiday Hill (Teams DeLucia & Morello)
June 10: Team Rocco's Eighth Grade Celebration at 9 AM
June 10: Team Morello's Eighth Grade Celebration at 11 AM
June 11: Team DeLucia's Eighth Grade Celebration at 9 AM
June 11: Team Domurad's Eighth Grade Celebration at 11 AM
June 13: Last Day of School

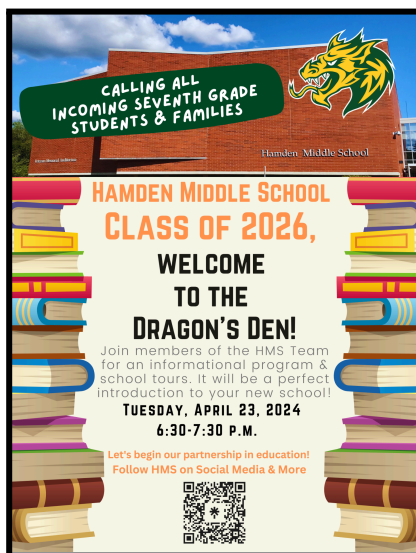
HELP US SPREAD THE WORD WELCOME TO THE DRAGON'S DEN: AN INFORMATIONAL PROGRAM FOR INCOMING 7TH GRADE FAMILIES

Date: Tuesday, April 23, 2024

Time: 6:30-7:30 PM

Location: HMS Auditorium

We are hosting an informational program on Tuesday, April 23rd at HMS for incoming 7th grade students and their families. It is a perfect evening for new families to get to know their new school. If you know someone in town who has a rising 7th grade student, please encourage them to attend this event.



ParentSquare

PARENTSQUARE IS COMING TO HAMDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Superintendent Highsmith is committed to improving home-school communication across the district. Parents reported that it can be tricky to keep up with information being sent home by the district and schools, especially if a family has children in multiple schools. ParentSquare is a communication tool, and it will help us to centralize all communication at the district, school, and classroom levels. Hamden will begin to use ParentSquare next year, and parents will receive additional information. We understand the importance of strong communication between HMS and our middle school families. We are very excited to work with parents to make the most of this new communication tool.

PTA EARTH DAY FUNDRAISER SATURDAY, APRIL 27 10 AM - 1 PM

Our PTA is hosting a special fundraiser for Earth Day, and it is aligned with spring cleaning! It's a Win- Win situation! You gather household items, outgrown clothes & dated media and your donations will help HMS earn money for end-of year events! It's an eco-friendly opportunity to help your community. *What will you donate towards the HMS PTA fundraiser?*

Please click this [LINK](#) if you intend to donate items.

HAMDEN PUBLIC SCHOOLS VIRTUAL BULLETIN BOARDS

Parents are invited to check out the district website. It is the virtual space for community fliers. It is a great way to see what is going on in our beautiful town.

<https://www.hamden.org/families/vbb>



Interested in purchasing HMS Swag?

Check out this website:

<https://hamdenspiritwear.com/>



DAILY HEALTH ASSESSMENT

Please review this updated Daily Health Assessment, available in [English](#) or [Spanish](#), with your child every day. This is an important first line of defense in both ensuring the health and wellness of your children and also protecting our entire school community from the risk of infection.
